



SAN ANTONIO

POLICE

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Media Advisory

NEW DATABASE FIRST IN NATION TO REPORT/RECOVER STOLEN PROPERTY San Antonio Police Department Partners with TRACE.COM to Prevent Trade of Stolen Property – Asks Citizens to Help

WHAT: News Conference

WHEN: Tuesday, November 27th
2:00 PM

WHERE: SAPD Headquarters
214 W. Nueva
MAP Room, Basement

The San Antonio Police Department has partnered with the world's leading online database of lost and stolen valuable property to make Texas stolen property files, including those in the San Antonio area, freely available to the general public at Trace.com (<http://www.trace.com/>). Through collaboration with assistance of the Texas Department of Public Safety and over 500 local Texas Police and Sheriff's departments, The San Antonio Police Department and Trace offer area law enforcement and citizenry the opportunity to drastically improve their chances of catching criminals, recovering stolen goods, and stopping the sale of stolen property.

Trace's San Antonio effort is part of a statewide Texas project that is its first law enforcement partnership in the United States. Trace chose Texas for its initial U.S. launch because of the state's large number of property crimes – nearly one million in 2006 – and strong tradition of law enforcement. The company has already partnered with over half the police forces in the United Kingdom and a number of international law enforcement organizations.

"San Antonio law enforcement welcomes Trace's arrival here," said Police Chief William McManus of SAPD. "This project is the first of its kind in the country. With the holiday shopping season upon us and the usual increase in robbery and theft associated with it, Trace.com will

give our police department and the public new tools to fight property crime here in the Alamo city.”

The Trace online database includes all identifiable property reported stolen to the FBI by over 500 Texas police agencies. San Antonio residents and all Texans can access the Trace database free of charge, to:

- Research items before purchasing them, to determine whether or not they are stolen;
- Report recently stolen property to law enforcement; and
- Register and create an inventory of their valuable property to dramatically increase chances of recovery and have a ready made inventory record for insurance purposes.

By searching Trace.com, the public can both report and avoid unknowingly purchasing stolen property, making it more difficult for criminals to move stolen items, and help local law enforcement deter crime. Furthermore, by creating secure, anonymous online inventories of their belongings, San Antonians can proactively protect their property.

“Trace offers SAPD a new method to fight theft-related crime,” continued Chief McManus. “Having a single database of stolen items that all San Antonians – from recent crime victims, to eBay customers, to antique dealers and pawnbrokers – can access will help us identify and return stolen property. We are asking residents to help us fight crime here in San Antonio by visiting Trace.com.”

“We are honored to partner with the San Antonio Police Department,” said Trace Vice President Ken Bouche. “There are approximately 80,000 property crimes in San Antonio every year. Trace.com was created to give law enforcement and the general public a free and easy-to-use system to help reclaim stolen property and catch criminals. As we enter the holiday gift-giving season, Trace is committed to helping San Antonians enjoy and take care of their belongings and get them back when they are stolen, as well as to preventing future criminal activity.”

For more information about Trace, please visit <http://trace.com/press.aspx>.

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